



PRESS RELEASE

Working Together to Build a Safer Community

For Immediate Release

Wednesday, December 4, 2013

The North Reading Community Impact Team recently partnered with the North Reading Police Department and O'Leary Senior Center to present a safety talk on identity theft for local seniors. 25 attendees listened to the hour-long presentation by Sergeant Thomas Encarnacao and were invited to ask questions and share concerns. Sgt. Encarnacao included information such as how identity theft occurs, how to prevent it, what to do if you become a victim, and some of the more current scams. "Seniors are often targets for phone call or email scams, especially as the generations become more tech-savvy," he explained. "We want to inform you of some of the scams out there so that you can protect yourself." He continued to explain in details scams that include grandchildren and ransom, jury duty, wiring money, insurance, and charity scams. Sgt. Encarnacao also offered advice including how to properly shred personal documents, reviewing statements regularly, checking your credit report annually, and how to protect oneself at home. He suggested, "If you feel like something isn't right about an unsolicited call or email, take action. Hang up, don't click through on links or open the email, and contact the police department." The event was recorded by NORCAM and will be offered on their public channel. The presentation was part of an on-going series of public presentations offered by the Community Impact Team this year as part of their safety grant. For more information on upcoming presentations, contact Amy Luckiewicz at northreadingcit@gmail.com or call 978.357.5281.

About the North Reading Community Impact Team

The North Reading Community Impact Team (CIT) is a partnership between the North Reading Police Department, North Reading Youth Services, North Reading School Department, North Reading Parks & Recreation, North Reading Fire Department, North Reading Elder Services and the North Reading Board of Selectmen. The team was developed to better coordinate the services provided to the community. The CIT's mission is to work together to better the quality of life for all citizens. The Team emphasizes the use of innovative, non-traditional methods of impacting crime and the fear of crime and strives toward cooperative interaction between the community, law enforcement and town departments. The CIT works to identify factors that have a negative impact on the quality of life for the citizens of North Reading and to implement solutions that solve the underlying problems. The group is organized into Action Teams including: PR/Communications, Public Safety, Social Services, K-12, and Business Coalition.

Notes for Editor: For further information contact Amy Luckiewicz, 978.357.5281, aluckiewicz@northreadingma.gov